

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION****IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

On page 31, at line 11, please replace paragraph [0060] of present specification with the following:

[0060]

In order to obtain such a good phase-separation structure as defined in the present invention, the composition of the hydrophilic resin for cross-linking is preferably similar to the composition of the hydrophilic resin for non-cross-linking described above. Specifically, when the hydrophilic resin for non-cross-linking that is prepared by reacting the compounds represented by the above-mentioned general formulas (1) and/or (2) is used, the hydrophilic resin for ~~non-cross-linking~~ cross-linking is similarly preferably prepared from a reaction using N-alkyl or N-alkylene substituted (meth)acrylamide, including (meth)acrylamide, represented by the following general formulas (1) and/or (2).

On page 56, at line 15, please replace paragraph [0102] of present specification with the following:

[0102]

Synthesis of hydrophilic resin P-4 for cross-linking

In a flask were charged 335 g of pure water. After dissolved oxygen was removed by bubbling N<sub>2</sub> gas, the temperature of the pure water was elevated to 80°C. While flowing N<sub>2</sub> gas into the flask, a monomer solution consisting of 56.25 g of acrylamide, 18.75 g of 2-hydroxyethylmethacrylate and 300 g of pure water, and an aqueous solution of initiator obtained

by dissolving 0.225 g of potassium persulfate in 40 g of pure water were dropped continuously each separately over 2 hours with keeping the inside of the flask at 80°C. After the completion of dropping, polymerization was continued for 3 hours at 80°C, and then the polymerization solution was cooled and taken out of the flask. The polymerization solution had a solid content of 10%. The molecular weight of the obtained hydrophilic ~~resin P-3~~ resin P-4 was 330,000 as Mw. An aqueous solution of the hydrophilic resin P-4 had a Brookfield viscosity of 320 cps at 25°C.

On page 57, at line 9, please replace paragraph [0103] of present specification with the following:

[0103]

Synthesis of hydrophilic resin Q-1 for non-cross-linking

In a flask were charged 335 g of pure water. After dissolved oxygen was removed by bubbling N<sub>2</sub> gas, the temperature of the pure water was elevated to 80°C. While flowing N<sub>2</sub> gas into the flask, an initiator/monomer solution consisting of 74.25 g of acrylamide, 75 g of pure water, 0.75 g of sodium methallylsulfonic acid, and 0.75 g of potassium persulfate was dropped continuously over 2 hours with keeping the inside temperature of the flask at 80°C. After the completion of dropping, polymerization was continued for 3 hours at 80°C, and then the polymerization solution was cooled and taken out of the flask. The polymerization solution had a solid content of 15%. The molecular weight of the obtained hydrophilic ~~resin P-3~~ resin Q-1 was 390,000 as Mw. An aqueous solution of the hydrophilic resin Q-1 had a Brookfield viscosity of 600 cps at 25°C.

On page 58, at line 2, please replace paragraph [0104] of present specification with the following:

[0104]

Synthesis of hydrophilic resin Q-2 for non-cross-linking

In a flask were charged 600 g of pure water. After dissolved oxygen was removed by bubbling N<sub>2</sub> gas, the temperature of the pure water was elevated to 80°C. While flowing N<sub>2</sub> gas into the flask, an initiator/monomer solution consisting of 75 g of acrylamide, 75 g of pure water, and 0.75 g of potassium persulfate was dropped continuously over 2 hours with keeping the inside of the flask at 80°C. After the completion of dropping, polymerization was still continued for 3 hours at 80°C, and then the polymerization solution was cooled and taken out of the flask. The polymerization solution had a solid content of 10%. The molecular weight of the resultant hydrophilic ~~resin P-4~~ resin Q-2 was 240,000 as Mw. An aqueous solution of the hydrophilic resin Q-2 had a Brookfield viscosity of 300 cps at 25°C.